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161231Z Nov 05

UNCLAS PARIS 007785

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E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: ACTION REQUEST: GUIDANCE ON RESPONSE TO COE INVESTIGATION

1. (U) This is an action request. See para 3.

2. (U) Amb. Stapleton received by fax a letter (full text para 4) from Dick Marty, whom the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly has appointed to investigate the allegations of CIA secret detention centers in CoE member countries. The key phrase reads, "I would very much appreciate receiving from your authorities any pertinent information they may be able to provide me with on this subject."

3. (U) ACTION REQUEST: Please provide authorized language for use by Ambassador and Strasbourg consulate in response to COE requests.

4. (U) Text of Marty letter:

Parliamentary Assembly
The Council of Europe
Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights
The Chairperson

14 November 2005

Dear Mr. Roberts Stapleton,

I address this letter to you in your capacity as Permanent Observer of the United States of America to the Council of Europe.

As you are no doubt aware, I have recently been instructed by the Parliamentary Assembly's Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights to collect information on alleged secret detention centres in Council of Europe member states as a result of communications received on this subject from a number of sources, especially Human Rights Watch.

With this in mind, and in particular the existence of serious allegations concerning your country's involvement in such activities in Council of Europe member States as of 2001, I would very much appreciate receiving from your authorities any pertinent information they may be able to provide me with on this subject.

I look forward to receiving a reply to my request at your earliest convenience and thank you for your cooperation.

Yours Sincerely,

Dick Marty

END LETTER TEXT

Please visit Paris' Classified Website at:
<http://www.state.sgov.gov/p/eur/paris/index.cfm>
Hofmann